THE EXAMINER.

No. 51. *SUNDAY, DECEMBER* 18, 1808.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.
SWIFT.

No. 51.

A FEW ENGLISH REFLECTIONS ON OUR LATE PRESENT OF A FRIGATE TO HIS HIGHNESS THE DEY OF ALGIERS.

Some of my readers may think that the DEY of ALGIERS is too insignificant a personage, in these momentous times, even for a political article; but this supposition would be a great piece of disrespect to the Government, for Ministers, it seems, think him important enough for a political bribe; and the same men, who sent fire and sword into the capital of an European monarch at peace with them, are sending a ship of war with all it's stores as a present to this petty African robber. What posterity will think of this, I know not; but I am sure such a proceeding is utterly beneath a great nation, which pretends to hold the balance of universal justice, or indeed beneath any nation which pretends to greatness or justice at all.

It is politic no doubt for every country, even in the midst of war, to consult it's interest with remote states, to take root in every possible way with it's branches while the storm is beating against it's trunk; but we should know the soil in which we ground our future hopes; we should examine it's consistency, it's depth, and it's powers of increase, and we should never prefer a barren soil while our enemies are suffered to cultivate much better ones at our expense. God knows how many interests there are which the British Government should consult before it thinks of it's piratical acquaintances; but it should at least be recollected, that we have neglected Persia, have insulted Turkey and Denmark, have lost our chance in Spain, and disgusted the inhabitants of Portugal, and (oh ye powers of climax!) have wound up our account of dignified policy by flattering a corsair and a barbarian.

Some men, who can abuse the FRENCH EMPEROR excellently well for his vices, are very bad imitators of his cunning. They try to compass small objects by great things, and great things by small; they endeavour to secure the friendship of a peaceful prince, who could never harm them, by violating it in a most magnificent manner; and they think to settle the destinies of the Mediterranean by making a present to one of it's pirates. If BONAPARTE has objects in the East, does he proceed, or will he be turned from his purpose, by manœuvres like these? He cultivates, not the friendship of a corsair whom he forced some time ago to deliver up the French captives without fee or reward, but the friendship of a powerful prince, the KING of PERSIA, whose alliance will be of importance to him, and whose intercourse with us has been the result of nothing but the petty grievances we have afforded him. And how does the Emperor cultivate the friendship of the Persians! He sends them shrewd and scientific men, who can at once accommodate themselves to the customs of the country, and render themselves familiar with its character and resources; he chooses no ambassador for his pigtail, or his petty accomplishments: his messengers are to kings, and not to women; and he is present with all his allies in the knowledge and the boldness of his representatives. While he is thus working his way silently and scientifically, he knows very well, that if he can possess himself of the whole southern coast of Europe, as he appears very likely to do, the coast of Barbary will have little to boast of our influence. Even the rock of Gibraltar, though almost impregnable if defended by an active and intelligent officer, is not invincible to the sappings of military corruption; and unless we improve upon our conventions and commanders, will not long resist the united hostility of his military system and our own. What is to become of our frigate and of the DEY of ALGIERS, if this should be the case? Nay, what is to become of Malta, of Sicily, of Turkey, and of Egypt? We are not to suppose that the inhabitants of these regions will have a greater interest in resisting BONAPARTE, than the people of Spain had. Those who differed with the views and the virtues of Sir RALPH ABERCROMBY, will not be in haste to send other ABERCROMBIES to Egypt. MOSTAPHA BAIRACTAR must be a wonder indeed for a Turk, if he can resist the intrigues and arms of the European conqueror: the Sicilians, we know, cannot fight; and the Maltese, as a late adventure has taught us, will not if they can. When the attack on Gibraltar comes, and come it will, GOD forbid we should entrust the defence of its least atom to mercenary soldiers.

As to this ridiculous present to the Moor, it is not to be considered with any patience. If it were under the notion of preserving our ships, it would only be tempting him still more with a fine specimen of them; if it is to gain his friendship, it is only giving the first example of setting his alliance up to sale; and who is to expect that a barbarian, whose habits, whose government, and whose very political existence teach

him to keep no faith with nation, will bow to us a jot the lower, because we have given him the first humiliating salutation? If we are to bribe such men with such presents, let us talk no more of our naval dominion, of our proud pre-eminence from shore to shore. Posterity will not believe that we are the same nation, whose ships left a track of renown wherever they went; or that it could be guilty of such a meanness, as long as we had a single vessel with a single Englishman on its deck.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

FIFTH BULLETIN OF THE ARMY OF SPAIN.

BURGOS, Nov. 16.—The fate of the army of Estremadura has been decided in the plains of Burgos. The Gallician army, beaten in the battles of Durango, Guinos, and Valmaseda, has been disperse in the battle of Espinosa. This army was composed of the ancient Spanish troops which were in Portugal and Gallicia; the militia of Gallicia, Asturias, and Old Castile; of 5000 Spanish prisoners, whom the English had disembarked at St. Andero; of the volunteers of Gallicia, and the regiments of artillery; and of the troops which the traitor Romana had carried away from the North. This army had the presumption to attempt cutting off our communication with Biscay. For ten days it was driven from post to post; at last, on the 10th of November, it arrived at Espinosa, where, in order to save their artillery, &c. it formed in order of battle, as it is believed, in a situation not to be forced. At three o'clock in the afternoon, Marshal the Duke of Bellune arrived in front of the enemy; General Pacthod was ordered to carry a small battery occupied by the troops of the traitor Romana. This position was excellent, and defended by their best troops; but Gen. Pacthod fell upon these troops, who had abused our confidence, and broken their oaths. In an instant they were broken and driven down the precipice. The Princess's regiment was destroyed. The enemy made several attacks; in all of which they were defeated. During the night both armies remained in their positions. Whilst this was taking place, the Duke of Dalmatia marched towards Reynosa, the only retreat of the enemy. At break of day the enemy were attacked both on the right and left by the Dukes of Dantzic and Bellune, while Gen. Maigon advanced against his centre. The enemy fled, throwing away his arms and colours, and abandoning his artillery. The Duke of Dantzic took at Reynosa the artillery, magazines, and baggage, and made some prisoners. Thus the enemy have been turned, not only at Reynosa, but at Palencia. Sixty pieces of cannon have been taken; 20,000 men killed or made prisoners; two Spanish Generals killed: all the succours in arms, &c. sent by the English, have fallen into our hands. Blake saved himself by taking to the Asturian mountains. Romana, with a few thousand men, is marching towards St. Andero.

Our loss is trifling in these battles, not exceeding 80 killed, and 300 wounded. We have not lost any officer of distinction.

SIXTH BULLETIN.

BURGOS, Nov. 18.—Of the 40,000 men who composed the army of Gallicia, part has been killed and taken, and the rest is dispersed. The remains arrive daily at our posts. The General of Division Dacho has taken 500 prisoners in the environs of Vasancellos.

Col. Tascher, who commands the first regiment of chasseurs, attacked the escort of the Spanish General Acevedo; the troops who composed the escort having made some resistance, they were all put to the sword.

Gen. Bonnet, with his division, fell in with the head of a column of fugitives, consisting of 2000 men; they were partly taken and partly destroyed.

The Marshal Duke of Istria, who commands the cavalry of the army, entered Aranda on the 16th, at noon. Our advanced parties of horse go on the left as far as Soria and Madrid, and on the right, to Leon and Zamora.

The enemy evacuated Aranda with the utmost precipitation, leaving there four pieces of cannon: a considerable magazine of biscuit, 40,000 quintals of grain, and a large quantity of clothing was found in that town.

In Reynosa, numerous English effects were found, and a considerable quantity of provisions of every description.

The inhabitants of Montana, and of the whole plain of Castile, which extends to Portugal, and of the province of Soria, detest and curse the authors of the war, and earnestly demand peace and repose.

Twenty thousand bales of wool, worth from 15 to 20 millions, which were seized in Burgos, have been sent to Bayonne.

SEVENTH BULLETIN.

BURGOS, Nov. 20.—On the 16th, the van of the Marshal Duke of Dalmatia entered St. Andero, and found there a large quantity of flour, ammunition, and English goods.

The Bishop of St. Andero, animated rather with the spirit of the devil than that of the gospel, who was always marching with a cutlass by his side, has taken shelter on board the English frigates.

The cavalry of Gen. Lasalle has pushed its advanced posts as far as Sorno Sierra.

The regiments of Zamora, and of the Princess, which formed part of Romana's division, are almost entirely annihilated.

EIGHTH BULLETIN.

BURGOS, Nov. 22.—The Duke of Dalmatia is following up his successes with the utmost activity. A convoy of artillery, ammunition, and English muskets, was taken in the port of Cunillar, the very moment the ships were on the point of getting under weigh.

Gen. Surrat continues vigorously to pursue the enemy. He has entered Asturia. The light companies of the 86th regiment have seized, in the port of Santillana, an English convoy laden with sugar, coffee, cotton, and other colonial commodities. The number of English vessels, richly laden, which have been taken on this coast, amount already to twenty-five.

The 7th corps, commanded by Gen. Gouvion St. Cyr, has also began its operations. On the 6th of November Rosa was invested by Generals Reille and Peno; and the heights of St. Pedro were carried by the Italians. A large number of Miqueletes and English occupied the port of Selva: they were attacked by Gen. Fontano, and dashed into the sea with the loss of ten 24-pounders, four of which were English.

On the 8th, the garrison of Rosa made a sortie, protected by the guns of the English ships. Gen. Maxuchelli killed 600 of them, and repulsed the rest.

NINTH BULLETIN.

ARANDA, Nov. 25.—The military system seems to have been as follows:—On the left was the army of Gallicia, one moiety of which was composed of troops of the line, and of all the resources of Gallicia, Asturia, and Leon.

In the centre was the army of Estremadura, which the English troops had promised to support, and which was composed of all the resources of Estremadura and the neighbouring provinces.

The army of Andalusia, Valencia, New Castile, and Arragon, stated to amount to 80,000 men, occupied, on the 20th November, Calahorra, Tudela, and the borders of Arragon. This army supported the right of the enemy, and was composed of the troops who formed the camp at St. Roque, and of the whole force of Andalusia

Valencia, Carthagena, and Madrid. It is against this army the French troops are now manœuvring, the rest having been dispersed and destroyed in the battles of Espinos and Burgos.

"The head-quarters were removed on the 22d from Burgos to Lerma, and on the 23d from Lerma to Aranda.

The Duke of Elchingen marched on the 22d to Soria. The town was disarmed, and a Committee of well-disposed persons appointed for the administration of the province. The Duke is now in Medina Celi, and his light troops cross the road from Saragossa to Madrid.

On the 22d, the Dukes of Montebello and Cornegliano formed a junction near the bridge of Lodosa.

On the 24th, the Duke of Belluno removed his head-quarters to Venta Gomez.

Almost all the roads of communication between Madrid and the northern provinces are intercepted by our troops, whose light parties have picked up a great number of couriers and mails. The utmost confusion seems to prevail in Madrid, and the whole nation anxiously desires the restoration of that tranquillity and peace, of which Spain has been deprived by the puerile arrogance and criminal cunning of a few intriguers. It appears difficult for the army which forms the right of the enemy, and is now on the banks of the Ebro, to fall back on Madrid and the south of Spain. The events which are now preparing will probably decide the fate of this other moiety of the Spanish army.

For these three days we have had damp and hazy weather. This season is more hurtful to the natives of the country, than to men accustomed to the climate of the north.

General Gouvion St. Cyr continues vigorously to push on the siege of Rosas.

TENTH BULLETIN.

ARANDA, Nov. 26.—The Spanish effective force was 180,000 effective men. Eighty thousand effective men, 60,000 of whom composed the armies of Gallicia and Estremadura, commanded by Blake, Romana, and Galuzzo, have been dispersed or put *hors de combat*.

The army of Andalusia, of Valencia, of Neuvelle Castille, and Arragon, commanded by Castanos, Penas, and Palafox, and which likewise consisted of 80,000 men, viz. 60,000 armed, will soon meet with its fate, as the Duke of Montebello has received orders to attack in front, with 30,000 men, whilst the Dukes of Elchingen and Belluno are placed behind it. There are besides 60,000 effective men (40,000 of whom are armed), 30,000 of which are in Catalonia, and 10,000 at Madrid, Valencia, and other depots. Previous to marching beyond the Duero, the Emperor had come to the resolution to annihilate the armies of the centre and left, and then to serve in the same manner that of the right commanded by Gen. Castanos. When this plan shall have been executed, the march to Madrid will be only a walk (promenade). This grand design ought now to have been accomplished.

The corps of Catalonia being partly composed of the troops of Valencia, Murcia, and Granada, these provinces, threatened themselves, will withdraw their troops, that is, if the state of the communication will permit. At all events, the 7th corps, after finishing the siege of Rosas, will give a good account of them.

As for Barcelona, Gen. Duhesme, with 15,000 men, provided with six months supplies, answers for the safety of that important fortress.

We have not said any thing of the English forces. It appears there is one division of them in Gallicia, and that another shewed themselves in Badajoz about the end of last month. If the English have any cavalry, we must have got sight of them, for our light troops have almost reached the frontiers of Portugal. If they have infantry, they probably have no intention of employing them in favour of their allies; for it is already thirty days since the opening of the campaign; three powerful armies have been destroyed; an immense quantity of artillery has been taken; the provinces of Castile, Montana, Arragon, and Soria, have been conquered; in short, the fate of Spain and Portugal is decided, and we hear nothing of any movement on the part of the English troops.

In the mean time half the French army has not yet arrived. A part of the 4th corps of the army, the whole of the 5th and 8th corps, six regiments of light cavalry, many companies of artillery and sappers, and a great number of men belonging to the regiments in Spain, have not yet passed Bidassoa.

In reality, and without derogating from the bravery of our soldiers, we must say, that worse troops than the Spanish soldiers do not exist. Like the Arabs, they may make a stand behind houses, but they have no discipline, no knowledge of tactics, and it is impossible for them to make any resistance on the field of battle. Even their mountains have afforded them but a feeble protection.—But owing to the power of the Inquisition, the influence of the Monks, and their address in seizing every pen, and directing every tongue what to say, it is still believed, in a great part of Spain, that Blake has been victorious, that the French army has been destroyed, and that the Imperial Guard are prisoners.

But whatever may be the momentary success of these miserable resources, these ridiculous efforts, the reign of the Inquisition is at an end. Its revolutionary tribunals will no longer torment any country in Europe. In Spain, as well as at Rome, the Inquisition shall be abolished, and the horrid spectacle of the *auto-da-fes* shall be repeated no more. This reform shall take place in spite of the religious zeal of the English, and the alliance they have contracted with Monkish impostors, who have given tongues to the Virgin of the Pillar, and the Saints of Valladolid. The allies of England are monopoly, the Inquisition, and the Franciscans; every thing is good alike to her, provided she divides the nations, and covers the Continent with blood.

An English brig, the Ferret, which left Portsmouth on the 11th inst. came to anchor on the 22d, in the port of Santander, not knowing that it was in the hands of the French. She had on board important dispatches, and a great number of English papers, all of which have been taken possession of.

At St. Ander we found a great quantity of Peruvian bark and colonial produce, which has been sent off for Bayonne.

The Duke of Dalmatia has entered the Asturias. Several cities and many villages have made offers of submission, in order to rescue themselves from the abyss dug by the counsels of foreigners, and the passions of the multitude.

ELEVENTH BULLETIN.

ARANDA DE DUERO, Nov. 27.—His Majesty on the 19th sent off the Marshal Duke of Montebello with instructions for the movements of the left, of which he gave him the command.

On the 21st, the division of General Lagrange, with the brigade of light cavalry of Gen. Colbert, and the brigade of dragoons of Gen. Dijon, set out from Logrono by the right of the Ebro.

At the same time, the four divisions, composing the corps of the Duke of Cornegliano, passed the river at Lodosa, abandoning the whole country between the Ebro and Pampeluna.

On the 22d, at break of day, the French army began its march. It took its direction to Calahorra, where, on the evening before, were the head-quarters of Castanos; it found that town evacuated, and afterwards marched upon Alfaro, whence the enemy had in like manner retreated.

On the 23d, at break of day, the General of Division, Lefebvre, at the head of the cavalry, and supported by the division of Gen. Morley, forming the advanced guard, met the enemy. He immediately gave information to the

Duke of Montebello, who found the army of the enemy in seven divisions, consisting of 45,000 men, under arms, with its right before Tudela, and its left occupying a line of a league and a half, a disposition absolutely bad. The Arragonese were on the right, the troops of Valencia and New Castile in the centre, and the three divisions of Andalusia, which Gen. Castanos commanded more especially, formed the left. Forty pieces of cannon covered the enemy's line.

At nine in the morning, the columns of the French army began to deploy with that order, that regularity, and coolness, which characterise veteran troops. Situations were chosen for establishing batteries with sixty pieces of cannon; but the impetuosity of the troops, and the inquietude of the enemy, did not allow time for this. The Spanish army was already vanquished by the order and the movements of the French army.

The Duke of Montebello caused the centre to be pierced by the division of the General Maurice Mathieu. The General of Division Lefebvre, with his cavalry, immediately passed on the trot through this opening, and enveloped, by a quarter-wheel to the left, the whole right of the enemy. The moment when half of the enemy's line found itself thus turned and defeated, was that in which General Lagrange attacked the village of Cascante, where the line of Castanos was placed, which did not exhibit a better countenance than the right, but abandoned the field of battle, leaving behind it its artillery, and a great number of prisoners. The cavalry pursued the remains of the enemy's army to Mallem, in the direction of Saragossa, and to Tarracona, in the direction of Agreda: seven standards, 30 pieces of cannon, with all their furniture, 12 Colonels, 300 officers, and 3000 men, have been taken; 4000 Spaniards have been left dead on the field of battle, or have been driven into the Ebro. Our loss has been trifling: we have had 60 men killed, and 400 wounded; among the latter is the General of Division Lagrange, who has received a bullet in the arm.

Our troops found at Tudela a number of magizines.—The Marshal Duke of Cornegliano has begun his march upon Saragossa.

While a part of the fugitives retired to this place, the left, which had been cut off, fled in disorder to Tarracona and Agreda.

The Duke of Elchingen, who was on the 22d at Soria, ought to have been on the 23d at Agreda: not a man could have escaped; but this corps being too much fatigued, remained at Soria the 23d and 24th. He arrived at Agreda on the 25th, still sufficiently in time to seize a number of magazines.

A fellow, named Palafox, formerly a *guarde du corps*, a man without talents and without courage, a kind of insignificant Monk, the true head of a party, which acquired him the name of General, was the first to take flight.—This is not the first time he has acted in that manner: he has done the same on all occasions. This army of 45,000 has been thus beaten and defeated without our having had more than 6000 men engaged.

The battle of Burgos had struck the centre of the enemy, and the battle of Espinosa the right. The battle of Tudela has struck the left. Victory has struck, as with a thunder-bolt, and dispersed the whole league of the enemy.

TWELFTH BULLETIN.

ARANDA, NOV. 28.—At the battle of Tudela, the General of Division Lagrange, charged with the attack of Cascante, ordered his division to march by echelons, and put himself at the head of the first division, composed of the 25th regiment of Light Infantry, which fell upon the enemy with such impetuosity, that 200 Spaniards were killed in the first charge of the bayonet. The other echelons could not come up. This singular intrepidity spread consternation and disorder among the troops of Castanos. It was at this moment that Gen. Lagrange, who was at the head of the first echelon, received a ball, which wounded him dangerously. On the 26th the Duke of Elchingen advanced by Sarracona to Borja. The enemy destroyed 60 tumbrils, which they had at Saracona.

Gen. Maurice Mathieu arrived on the 25th at Borja, pursuing the enemy, and every moment taking fresh prisoners, the number of which already amounts to 5000; they are all troops of the line. No quarter was given to any of the peasants who were found in arms. We took 37 pieces of cannon. Disorder and dilirium have seized upon their leaders. Their first proceeding was a violent manifesto, in which they declared war against France. They imputed to her all the disorders of their Court, the degeneracy of the race which reigned, and the baseness of the great, who, for many years, have prostrated themselves in the most abject manner at the feet of the idol, which they load with all their rage now he is fallen. They have a very false idea in Germany, Italy, and France, of Spanish Monks, if they compare them to the Monks which exist in those countries. We find among the Benedictines, the Bernadins, &c. in France and Italy, a crowd of men remarkable in science and literature; they distinguish themselves by their education, and by the honourable and useful class to which they belong. The Spanish Monks, on the contrary, are chosen from the dregs of the people; they are ignorant and drunken, and can only be compared to people employed in slaughter-houses: they are ignorant, and have the very manner and appearance of it. It is only over the very lowest classes that they have any influence. A citizen would think himself dishonoured by admitting a Monk to his table. As to the unfortunate Spanish peasants, we can only compare them to the Fellahs of Egypt; they have no property; every thing belongs to the Monks, or some powerful house. The liberty to keep an inn is a feudal right, yet, in a country so favoured by nature, we find neither post nor inns; the taxes were alienated, and belong to the Lords. The great have degenerated to such a degree, that they are without energy, without merit, and even without influence. We every day find at Valladolid, and beyond it, considerable magazines of arms. The English faithfully executed that part of their engagement; they promised muskets, poignards, and libels; these they have sent in profusion. Their inventive spirit has been signalized; and they have carried to a great length the art of spreading libels, as of late they have distinguished themselves by their fire-rockets. All the evils, all the scourges which can afflict mankind, come from London.

FROM THE MONITEUR OF DECEMBER 4.

The Sun.—"According to accounts from Lisbon, a part of the English army will embark for the Mediterranean, and be landed in Catalonia. The people of Lisbon continue to rejoice at the departure of the French troops; and on the 14th, the English Officers gave a very splendid entertainment to the nobility and principal inhabitants of that city."

Note of the Moniteur.—The English will not land in Catalonia. As to Lisbon, if the people of that city rejoiced at the departure of the French, they will rejoice much more sincerely at the departure of the English; and if the French give splendid repasts, it will be to thank the ladies of Lisbon for the brilliant balls they have received from them. Can any thing be more ridiculous than the emulation manifested by the English to contend with their land forces against the French? France has in Spain a formidable army, and, at the same time, 100,000 men forming the army of the Rhine, in Germany; 100,000 are at Boulogne; 40,000 at Naples; 40,000 in Dalmatia; and 80,000 in Italy. Had war taken place in Germany, that would not have prevented the conquest of Spain and Portugal. The English always wish to consider present France as the same with France of former times. She can have 900,000 men under arms without exhausting herself; she can have, and she has, 100,000

cavalry. The number may be increased, if necessary, till England shall have made peace. The English merchandize which has been found at Bilboa, at St. Andero, and in the ports of Asturias, are sufficient to pay the expences of the War.

The *Moniteur* of the 5th contains a statement of the numbers of the Spanish armies from the Spanish papers, making the total amount to 194,000. The *Moniteur* has the following note :—

" Vastly well! But after ten days campaign, and only three actions, those of Burgos, Espinosa, and Tudela, let us see how many remain. There are not 4000 men selected together. Their armies have existed."

STATE PAPERS.

BRITISH DECLARATION.

The Overtures made to his Majesty by the Governments of Russia and of France have not led to negociation: and the intercourse to which those overtures gave rise being terminated, his Majesty thinks it right thus promptly and publicly to make known its termination. The continued appearance of a negociation, when peace has been found to be utterly unattainable, could be advantageous only to the enemy. It might enable France to sow distrust and jealousy in the councils of those who are combined to resist her oppression: and if, among the nations which groan under the tyranny of French alliance, or among those which maintain against France a doubtful and precarious independence, there should be any which even now are balancing between the certain ruin of a prolonged inactivity, and the contingent dangers of an effort to save themselves from that ruin; to nations so situated, the delusive prospect of a peace between Great Britain and France could not fail to be peculiarly injurious. Their preparations might be relaxed by the vain hope of returning tranquillity, or their purpose shaken by the apprehension of being left to contend alone.

That such was, in fact, the main object of France in the proposals transmitted to his Majesty from Erfurth, his Majesty entertained a strong persuasion. But at a moment when results so awful from their importance, and so tremendous from their uncertainty, might be depending upon the decision of peace or war, the King felt it due to himself to ascertain, beyond the possibility of doubt, the views and intentions of his enemies.

It was difficult for his Majesty to believe that the Emperor of Russia had devoted himself so blindly and fatally to the violence and ambition of the Power with which his Imperial Majesty had unfortunately become allied, as to be prepared openly to abet the usurpation of the Spanish Monarchy; and to acknowledge and maintain the right, assumed by France, to depose and imprison friendly Sovereigns, and forcibly to transfer to herself the allegiance of independent nations.

When, therefore, it was proposed to his Majesty to enter into negociation for a general peace, in concert with his Majesty's Allies, and to treat either on the basis of the *uti possidetis* (heretofore the subject of so much controversy), or on any other basis, consistent with justice, honour, and equality, his Majesty determined to meet this seeming fairness and moderation, with fairness and moderation, on his Majesty's part, real and sincere.

The King professed his readiness to enter into such negociation, in concurrence with his Allies; and undertook forthwith to communicate to them the Proposals which his Majesty had received. But as his Majesty was not connected with Spain by a formal treaty of alliance, his Majesty thought it necessary to declare, that the engagements which he had contracted, in the face of the world, with that nation, were considered by his Majesty as no less sacred, and no less binding upon his Majesty, than the most solemn treaties; and to express his Majesty's just confidence that the Government of Spain, acting in the name of his Catholic Majesty Ferdinand the VIIth, was understood to be a party to the Negociation.

The reply returned by France to this proposition of his Majesty, casts off at once the thin disguise which had been assumed for a momentary purpose, and displays, with less than ordinary reserve, the arrogance and injustice of that Government. The universal Spanish nation is described by the degrading appellation of the "Spanish Insurgents;" and the demand for the admission of the Government of Spain as a party to any negociation, is rejected as inadmissible and insulting.

With astonishment, as well as with grief, his Majesty has received from the Emperor of Russia a reply, similar in effect, although less indecorous in tone and manner.—The Emperor of Russia also stigmatizes as "Insurrection," the glorious efforts of the Spanish people in behalf of their legitimate Sovereign, and in defence of the independence of their country; thus giving the sanction of his Imperial Majesty's authority to an usurpation which has no parallel in the history of the world.

The King would readily have embraced an opportunity of negociation which might have afforded any hopes or prospect of a peace compatible with justice and with honour. His Majesty deeply laments an issue, by which the sufferings of Europe are aggravated and prolonged. But neither the honour of his Majesty, nor the generosity of the British nation, would admit of his Majesty's consenting to commence a negociation, by the abandonment of a brave and loyal people, who are contending for the preservation of all that is dear to man; and whose exertions in a cause so unquestionably just, his Majesty has solemnly pledged himself to sustain.

Westminster, Dec. 15, 1808.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

On Sunday evening, about eight o'clock, as Mr. Wm. White, a respectable farmer, of Hoo, near Upnor, in Kent, was sitting in his parlour reading, a shot was fired through the window, which instantly killed him. The alarm being given, immediate search was made after the perpetrator, but without effect. A gun, recently discharged, was found in a ditch about 40 roods from the house near the Medway; from which it is presumed that the villain escaped by water. The deceased was a widower, and bore an excellent character: he has left a family of eleven children to lament his loss. The most deliberate aim must have been taken by the perpetrator, as he had placed a hurdle before the window to rest the gun on. The elder branches of the family were sitting near the unfortunate man, and his eldest daughter had just risen to reach something from an adjoining cupboard when the shot was fired, which entered at the back part of his head, and came out under his right eye. The gun is an old musket-barrel fastened to the stock by a nail in the breach, hammered down double in the wood; the lock will not stand at whole cock, but was fastened back by a piece of twine, which is supposed to have been cut at the time of firing, as it appeared in that state when found.

On Sunday morning, an unfortunate accident befel the servant maid of Mr. Spong, at Sandgate, Kent. As a young lady, the niece of Mr. Spong, and the girl, were playing with a pistol, not knowing it was loaded, the young lady having close hold of the muzzle, and the girl of the stock, and endeavouring to wrest it from her, it unfortunately went off, and the ball penetrating under the left breast, near the heart, lodged in the right side, from whence it was extracted. Several minutes elapsed before the poor girl knew she was wounded, considering herself merely scorched by the powder; she is still alive, but little hopes are entertained of her recovery.

Monday, at Plymouth, as the Parthian, of 18 guns, Capt. Balderston, was getting under weigh, between the

Island and the Main, to carry dispatches to Spain, one of the Master's Mates came on the deck, advanced towards the Captain with a pistol, and shot him through the body; he fell on the quarter-deck, and expired in an hour—the murderer was immediately secured. The body was brought on shore next morning, under the discharge of minute guns from the ship. It appears that the Master's-mate, whose name is Smith, having behaved ill, was disrated. He directly went below, loaded a pistol with four slugs, then ate his dinner, went upon deck, and shot his commander from behind.

A very singular occurrence took place on Tuesday last at Chatham Barracks:—A soldier was observed late in the evening stealing along near the lime trees, muffled up in a great coat. When called to, he made no reply. He was pursued by an Officer to the North Mess-house, where the centinel on duty presented his bayonet, and called on the fugitive to stop; but the man still keeping on, the centinel again warned him in vain of the danger, for he rushed on the point of the bayonet, which entered his flank, passed obliquely through his body, and came up to the hilt out at his back. Without saying a word, uttering a groan, or giving any evidence of pain, the man resolutely drew his body back, released himself from the centinel, and pursued his way to the room where he was quartered. He was then taken to the hospital, is still alive, and hopes of his recovery are entertained.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Downing Street, Dec. 13, 1808.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Henry Bentinck, Esq. to be Governor and Commander in Chief of the settlements of Demerara and Essequibo.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Charles Bentinck, Esq. to be Governor and Commander in Chief of the settlement of Surinam.

Downing-street, December 8, 1808.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, has been received by Viscount Castlereagh, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieut.-General Sir John Stuart, commanding his Majesty's forces in Sicily.

My Lord, *Messina, Sept.* 20.

Having been apprised that a large convoy of the enemy, consisting of a number of coasting vessels, said to be charged with contributions in kind from the two provinces of Calabria to the Neapolitan Government, were assembled at Dimante, near the Gulf of Policastra, under the protection of four gun-boats and heavy batteries on shore, I detached Lieut. Colonel Bryce, of the Royal Engineers, with the troops mentioned in the margin*, to co-operate with the Commanders of his Majesty's sloops Halcyon and Weazel, and with a small naval equipment of his Sicilian Majesty, in the endeavour to take or destroy them.

Inclosed I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the report of the above-named judicious Officer, stating the entire success of the enterprise entrusted to his conduct.—I have the honour to be, &c. J. Stuart.

* The Regiment of Malta, commanded by Major Hammill; 150 rank and file of 58th regiment, under Captain O'Brien; a detachment of 50 men of the German Legion; a detachment of artillery, with two six-pounders and one howitzer, under Capt. Campbell.

Sir, *Off Diamante, Sept.* 8.

I do myself the honour to acquaint you, that the detachment you were pleased to put under my orders has successfully executed the service in view, by capturing, in conjunction with Capt. Pearce of the Royal Navy, a [illegible] of the enemy's vessels, of which four [illegible], under the town of Diamante, where [illegible] with much perseverance by Captain [illegible] Majesty's brig the Weazle.

We were baffled by calms during five days on the passage from Milazzo, on three of which we must have been distinctly seen from the enemy's coast. And on examining the position taken here, I found it very respectable, as the town of Diamante, which covered the vessels ranged on the right and left of it, stands on a peninsula nearly inaccessible on three sides, the fourth is protected by difficult inclosures, and there is besides a building of considerable strength commanding the whole.

Under these discouraging circumstances, augmented by the non-arrival of the Sicilian gun-boats, and the absence of two of the transports, it required the fullest confidence in the conduct of Major Hammill, and the troops intended to be landed, to induce me to hazard an attempt on the town, without the possession of which I saw nothing effectual could be done. After the strong building above mentioned had been successfully cannonaded for several hours by Captains Pearce and Prescot, of the Royal Navy, and the Chevalier Balsamo, commanding a galliot of his Sicilian Majesty, who were indefatigable in their exertions, 250 men of the Regiment of Malta, under Major Hammill, and 100 of the 58th regiment, under Captain O'Brien, were landed at day-break this morning, about half a mile to the northward of the town, accompanied by a howitzer, and two three-pounders, commanded by Capt. Campbell, of the Royal Artillery. The enemy, who consisted of about 400 men of the Civic Guard, with a proportion of French troops, were gradually forced back through the underwood upon the town, which, however, they did not attempt to defend, but took to the mountains; and we were enabled to turn their batteries, of four heavy guns, on the beach to the southward of the town, without sustaining any loss, when the whole of their vessels fell into our hands. I beg leave to express great satisfaction with the judicious conduct of Major Hammill; and thanks are due to Captain Campbell, commanding the artillery, Capt. O'Brien, commanding the 58th, and Lieut. Lawson, of the Engineers, who did me the favour to attend me on shore. I have the honour to be, &c. Alex. Bryce,

Lieunt.-Col. Royal Engineers.

[A letter from Capt. Lillicrap, of the Dispatch sloop, states the capture, off Nevis, of the small French schooner privateer Dorade, belonging to Guadaloupe, mounting one brass gun, with small arms and twenty men.]

BANKRUPTS.

T. Robinson, jun. Birmingham, druggist, Dec. 19, 20, Jan. 24, at twelve, at the Shakspeare Tavern, Birmingham. Attornies, Messrs. Webb and Tyndall, Birmingham.

J. Hodgson, Liverpool, auctioneer, Dec. 19, 20, Jan. 24, at eleven, at the Shakespeare Tavern, Birmingham. Attornies, Messrs. Griffiths and Hind, Liverpool.

T. Morse, Wood-street, Cheapside, factor, Dec. 17, 27, Jan. 24, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Pullen, Fore-street, Cripplegate.

F. Jackson, Rood-lane, merchant, Dec. 20, at one, 24, at ten, Jan. 24, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Bland, Vauxhall.

G. Riddell, Berwick-upon-Tweed, grocer, Jan. 2, 3, 24, at eleven, at the Angel Inn, Berwick-upon-Tweed. Attorney, Mr. Willoby, Berwick.

W. Reeve, Clapham, coach-master, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 24, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Wiltshire and Bolton, Old Broad-street.

W. Robinson, Debenham, Suffolk, shoemaker, Dec. 20, at one, 24, at ten, Jan. 24, at one, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Maddock and Stevenson, Lincoln's-Inn.

M. R. and W. Bishop, Cambridge, woollen-drapers, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 24, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Davies, Lothbury.

D. Burgess and M. Lord, Rochdale, cotton-spinners, Dec. 20, 31, Jan. 24, at two, at the Palace Inn, Manchester. Attornies, Messrs. Kay and Renshaw, Manchester.

R. Rigby, Liverpool, joiner, Dec. 30, 31, Jan. 24, at one, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attorney, Mr. Fleetwood, Liverpool.

W. Ware, Caldicot, Monmouthshire, shopkeeper, Jan. 3, 4, 24, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Smiths, Bristol.

S. Danford, Abchurch-lane, broker, Dec. 23, 31, Jan. 24, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Walker, Old Jewry.

W. and R. Richardson, and C. S. Bell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchants, Jan. 13, 14, 24, at eleven, at the Indian Kings, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Attorney, Mr. Donkin, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

W. J. H. Knight, of Church-row, Islington, ship-broker, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 24, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Hall, Coleman-street.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 7. W. List, Cateaton-street, warehouseman.—Jan. 10. S. May and J. Spooner, Great Portland-street, haberdashers.—Jan. 17. J. Barclay, Old Broad-street, merchant.—Jan. 21. Henry Nantes, Warnford-court, Throgmorton-street, merchant.—Jan. 30. J. Mercer, Uxbridge, and N. Mercer, Chatham-place, mealmen.—Jan. 21. J. Fessey, Dunstable, straw-hat-manufacturer.—Jan. 3. W. Lowe, Drury-lane, cabinet-maker.—Jan. 24. W. F. Ogilvy, Minories, druggist.—Jan. 21. C. Shaw, J. Graham, and J. Burn, Southampton, wine-merchants.—Jan. 5. E. Gray, Monkwearmouth, Durham, coalfitter.—Jan. 6. J. Byrne, Liverpool, wine-merchant.—Jan. 21. J. Lane, T. Frazer, and T. Bolston, Nicholas, merchants.—Jan. 19. L. and T. A. Beale, Basinghall-street, warehousemen.—Jan. 19. T. Jennings, Bunhill-row, wharfinger.—Jan. 4. Wm. Goulton, Selby Yorkshire, linen-draper.—Jan. 4. R. Seabrook, Great Bradley, Suffolk, butcher.—Jan. 6. T. and J. Stutterd, Lindley, and T. Littlewood, Oldfield, York, merchants.—Jan. 24. Wm. C. Thomas, Nicholas-lane, merchant.—Jan. 26. J. Kelly, Manchester, manufacturer.

CERTIFICATES—JAN. 3.

R. Soanes, Mark-lane, provision-merchant.—T. Watkins, Brewer-street, Golden-square, auctioneer.—W. E. B. Von. Doornik, Warwick, soap-manufacturer.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

At the Court at the Queen's Palace, the 14th of Dec. 1808, present, the King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

It is this day ordered by his Majesty in Council, that the Parliament, which was to meet on Monday, the 16th day of January next, be further prorogued to Thursday, the 19th day of the same month, then to meet for the dispatch of business; and the Right Hon. the Lord High Chancellor, of that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, is to cause a Commission to be prepared in the usual manner, for proroguing the Parliament accordingly.

Foreign Office, December 16, 1808.

The King has been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. William Pitt Lord Amherst, to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of his Sicilian Majesty.

[This Gazette contains also an Order of Council, declaring that the ports of St. Domingo, which are not in the actual possession of France, and from which the British flag is not excluded, shall be considered as not being in a state of hostility with his Majesty; and that his Majesty's subjects and others are at liberty freely to trade thereat, in the same manner as they may trade at neutral ports.—Also an account of the capture of l'Union French privateer, of 8 guns, and 80 men, by the Culloden.]

BANKRUPTS.

G. Brede, jun. Lime-street, fishmonger, to surrender Dec. 24, Jan. 3, 28, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Lang, America-square.

W. Peaty, Bristol, straw hat-manufacturer, Dec. 30, 31, Jan. 28, at ten, at the Christopher Inn, Bath. Attorney, Mr. Sheppard, Bath.

T. Willis, Bath, carpenter, Dec. 20, 31, Jan. 28, at eleven, at the Christopher Inn, Bath. Attorney, Mr. Sheppard, Bath.

A. Black and P. Prescot, Liverpool, brewers, Jan. 6, 7, 28, at one, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attornies, Messrs. Parr and Thompson, Liverpool.

C. Grinder, Blackburn, Lancashire, linen-draper, Jan. 9, 10, 28, at twelve, at the Old Bull Inn, Blackburn. Attornies, Messrs. Blacklock and Makinson, Temple.

H. Howden, Dove-place, Hackney-road, builder, Dec. 20, at one, 24, at ten, Jan. 28, at one, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Turner and Pike, Bloomsbury-square.

C. Lance, Grosvenor-place, baker, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 28, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Allan, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

J. B. Skelton, Size-lane, merchant, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 28, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Dann and Crosland, Broad-street.

B. Eustace, Lancaster, corn and flour dealer, Jan. 2, 3, 28, at eleven, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attornies, Messrs. Griffith and Hinde, Liverpool.

S. Young, Newport-street, linen-draper, Dec. 20, Jan. 3, 28, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Carpenter and Baily, Basinghall-street.

J. Blythe, Bristol, merchant, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 28, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Sherwood, Cushion-court, Broad-street, London.

E. Chew, Charlotte-street, Whitechapel, money-scrivener, Dec. 27, Jan. 7, at twelve, 28, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Howard, Jewry-street, Aldgate.

G. Sanders, Ayr-street, Piccadilly, victualler, Dec. 24, 27, Jan. 28, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Payne, Basinghall-street.

I. Hurry, Nag's-head-court, Gracechurch-street, merchant, Dec. 24, Jan. 7, 28, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Swain, Stevens, and Maples, Old Jewry.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 19. L. and T. A. Beale, Basinghall-street, warehousemen.—Jan. 4. T. Harrison, jun. Sandford-hall, Gloucestershire, timber-merchant.—Jan. 16. W. Salt, Stockport, Cheshire, joiner.—Jan. 16. J. Whitehead, Stockport, Cheshire, victualler.—Jan. 10. William Brewer, Cirencester, innholder.—Jan. 12. T. Bradnock, Walsall, Staffordshire, dealer.—Jan. 13. David Keen, Tramlingham, Suffolk, surgeon.—Jan. 12. J. Anstie, Devizes, Wiltshire, clothier.—Dec. 21. Thos. Hughes, Bennet-street, St. James's, victualler.—Jan. 14. W. Hawkesworth, Blackfriar's-road, linen-draper.—Jan. 17. E. Morgan, Noble-street, warehouseman.—Jan. 10. W. Angus, Rochester, linen-draper.—Jan. 28, E. Oates, Leeds, dry-salter.—Jan. 17. J. Lomas, sen. J. Lomas, jun. and J. H. Lomas, Leicester, woolstaplers.—Jan. 19. G. Sone, Gosport, shoemaker.—Jan. 10. J. Beach, Birmingham, button-maker.—Jan. 17. T. Dearing and M. Forster, Litchfield-street, Soho, tavern-keepers.—Jan. 21. J. Bishop and J. Terry, Maidstone, upholders.—Jan. 21. N. Rust, Rotherfield-Peppard, Oxfordshire, miller.

CERTIFICATES—JAN. 7.

John Rayner, Thirsk, Yorkshire, druggist.—T. Pater, Shadwell High-street, Surgeon.—Henry Nicholson, Bridge-street, Westminster, silk-mercer.—E. Dawson, Hinkley, Leicestershire, hosier.—I. Ashton, Little Green, Manchester, dyer.—T. Young, Mangotsfield, Gloucestershire, dealer.—Joseph Perry, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street, broker.

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY.

3 per Cent. Red, 65 ⅞ ¾. | Omnium 1 dis. | Consols for Op. 66 ⅞ ¼.

On Sunday, the 1st of January, the price of the *Examiner* will be increased one penny. This advance is rendered necessary, from the unexampled price now paid for paper, which has risen three times within the present year; and for which heavy loss the Proprietors cannot indemnify themselves in the manner of other Prints, by levying an additional sum on their Advertisements,—as the *Examiner stands alone* in having most strictly adhered to its original pledge, of *not inserting Advertisements in any shape whatever*,—On the above day, the columns of the Paper will be so much enlarged, as to admit an additional quantity of matter, equal to a page of its present size. And on Monday, the 2d of January, a Monday Edition of the *Examiner* will be printed, for the use of Readers of London Newspapers in *the Country*. It will, of course, contain all the London Markets, and the latest Intelligence up to the evening of Monday.

The great press of temporary matter prevents the appearance, this day, of the last Essay on Methodism, and several Articles from Correspondents.

THE EXAMINER.

London, December 18.

Bonaparte is at Madrid. The French entered that city on the noon of the 4th instant, and the whole interest of the contest will soon be transferred to another part of the globe. The defeat of Castanos, who appears to have fled rather than fought, and who has *now* determined, they say, not to risk great battles, was followed by an attack on the strong pass of Somma Sierra, which opens the road to Madrid, and was deemed impregnable. It was carried by a charge of Polish cavalry, by the troops of a nation, who after fighting to the last drop but one in the cause of freedom, are now shedding the very last in the cause of tyranny. If the Poles are thus degraded, if the relics of Kosciusko have become slaves, what are we to hope from the fugitives of Castanos? Yet it is curious, and by no means flattering to our good sense, to see how easily the courtier newspapers raised up a thousand hopes throughout the whole of last week, and how little they cared for inconsistencies or for misrepresentation so as they could deceive the people. It was asserted that the successes of the enemy had been grossly exaggerated, that Romana was in excellent condition, and Castanos full of resource, and yet all this time Sir John Moore had not moved a step against the enemy from Salamanca. The long delay at that place is inexplicable, unless the people themselves were almost in arms against us. Again, the reduction of Somma Sierra, though the pass was evidently defended with an obstinate anxiety, was considered as nothing, so long as the people of Madrid manifested an enthusiasm against the approaching besiegers. And after all, to what has this enthusiasm amounted? To a defence of two days! the French were at Saint Martin on the 2d, and entered Madrid on the 4th. The more we learn of the Spaniards, the more, I trust, we shall be persuaded that Sir John Moore could not act otherwise than he has done,—the more, I fear, we shall be persuaded that it is Spanish patriotism and not French success, which has been so grossly exaggerated.

The usual mixture of good sense, of bravado, and of a humour quite French, distinguishes the fresh Bulletins. The Parisians during the excesses of the Revolution used to cling to a joke as their last refuge in distress; and they still preserve their monkey-tiger character in this respect, though it must be owned that they have some reason to be facetious when they think of our military system. "If the English," say the Bulletins, "have any cavalry, we must have got sight of them, for our light troops have almost reached the frontiers of Portugal. If they have infantry, they probably have no intention of employing them in favour of their allies; for it is already thirty days since the opening of the campaign; three powerful armies have been destroyed; an immense quantity of artillery has been taken; the provinces of Castile, Montana, Arragon, and Soria, have been conquered; in short, the fate of Spain and Portugal is decided, and we hear nothing of any movement on the part of the English troops."—The Monks are treated with the accustomed and deserved contempt; but care is taken to distinguish their character from that of the Monks in France, Italy, and Germany; for Bonaparte is too cunning to alienate the feelings of his own subjects, and besides, he has not yet done with the Puppet of the Vatican. The Spanish Monks are represented as the dregs of the people, ignorant, drunken, and brutal, and I dare say they are not belied; for what can be expected from solitary and superstitious vulgarity?—One ray certainly pervades the gloomy prospects in Spain, the ray of religious inquiry: and it is not without a mixture of contempt and admiration, that we can hear the man, who the other day promised to maintain the vilest prejudices of the Spaniards, suddenly denouncing the overthrow of a tribunal, which filled all Christendom with terror. "The reign of the Inquisition," says the conqueror, "is at an end. In Spain as well as at Rome the Inquisition shall be abolished, and the horrid spectacle of the *autos-da-fe* shall be repeated no more." Had the arbiter of these mighty changes been as good as he is great, had his intentions been as honest as the practice in this one respect is beneficial, there is not a heart in Europe but would have yielded him a homage worth all the prostrations of all the slaves in existence. And yet I dare say, that it is this kind of negative good spirit, this occasional and contingent reformation, which reconciles the man's secret conscience to himself.

The late Correspondence between France and this country was of the nature and result that every body expected. BONAPARTE held out his usual offers of peace; the Government received them with a shrug and talked of consulting Spain; and then the Frenchman affects to be astonished, and says how shocking it is that he is compelled to shed blood. Had this man lived in a superstitious age, he would have had the Lord is his mouth as often as CROMWELL. The Ministry however have shewn that they understand the true dignity, if not always the true interests of a good cause, and have published a ROYAL DECLARATION worthy of an English Monarch. They reject with a manly moderation the insidious overtures of the enemy, as tending to confuse the councils of those oppressed countries, whose "preparations might be relaxed by the vain hope of returning tranquillity, or whose purpose shaken by the apprehension of being left to contend alone." It would have been as well perhaps had they said nothing about the promptness with which the Declaration has been published; and it is somewhat unbecoming of their honesty and their understanding to say, that when the Emperor ALEXANDER calls the Revolution an Insurrection, they hear him with astonishment as well as grief. Grieved they may be, when they see their old *magnanimous* Ally behaving with so utter a slavishness; but as to any astonishment, it is a political cant unworthy of the general tenour of the Paper.

The Chelsea Board has terminated, like the French overture, in nothing; at least, it has done nothing to hinder the necessity of a more decided and national inquiry into the Convention. If Sir HARRY BURRARD appears to have been culpable in restraining the ardour of WELLESLEY, it must be remembered that Sir ARTHUR does not say that he considered the French at the time as a routed or a flying enemy, but as in a confusion that warranted his expectations of a second victory; but, at any rate, the men themselves who are the objects of inquiry, evidently regard each other as blameable; Sir HEW accuses Sir ARTHUR of approving all the articles of the Convention but one, —Sir HARRY thinks him guilty of precipitation,— and Sir ARTHUR, in return, seems to hold them both in contempt for their inglorious inactivity and submissions. The business therefore is exactly where it commenced: nobody is exculpated, nobody is satisfied: on the contrary, the Generals blame each other, the Commissariat is blamed, the Ministers are blamed; and the country must still look for the investigation it has so ardently solicited.

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PARIS, DECEMBER 13.

"*Camp at Madrid, Dec.* 4.

"The Town of Madrid has Capitulated. Our troops entered it to-day at noon."—(This intelligence is contained in the *Moniteur* of the 13th and 14th inst.)

THIRTEENTH BULLETIN.

"ST. MARTIN, NEAR MADRID, DEC. 2.—On the 29th ult. the head-quarters of the Emperor were removed to the village of Bouzeaullas. On the 30th, at break of day, the Duke of Bellune presented himself at the foot of Samosierra. A division of 13,000 men of the Spanish army of reserve defended the passage of the mountains. The enemy thought themselves unattackable. They had entrenched themselves in the narrow passage called Puerto, with 16 pieces of cannon. The 9th light infantry marched upon the right, the 96th upon the causeway, and the 24th followed, by the side of the heights on the left; Gen. Senarmont, with six pieces of artillery, advanced by the causeway.

"The action commenced by the firing of musketry and cannon. A charge made by General Montbrun, at the head of the Polish light horse, decided the affair. It was a most brilliant one, and the regiment covered itself with glory, and proved it was worthy to form a part of the Imperial Guard. Cannons, flags, muskets, soldiers, all were taken or cut to pieces. Eight Polish light horse were killed upon the cannon, and 16 have been wounded, among the latter is Captain Dzievanoski, who was dangerously wounded, and lies almost without hopes of recovery. Major Segur, Marshal of the Emperor's household, charged among the Polish troops, and received many wounds, one of which is very severe; sixteen pieces of cannon, 10 flags, 20 covered chests, 200 waggons laden with all kind of baggage; the military chests of the regiments, are the fruits of this brilliant affair; among the prisoners, which are very numerous, are all the Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, of the corps of the Spanish division; all the soldiers would have been taken if they had not thrown away their arms and dispersed in the mountains.

"On the 1st of December, the head-quarters of the Emperor were at Saint Augustin, and on the 2d, the Duke of Istria, with the cavalry, commanded the heights of Madrid.

"The infantry could not arrive before the 3d.—The intelligence which we hitherto received, led us to think that this town is suffering under all kinds of disorders, and that the doors are barricadoed.—The weather is very fine."

Two Spanish Messengers arrived in town on Wednesday night, having landed on Tuesday at Plymouth from the Indefatigable. Both came from Madrid. One was the bearer of dispatches to Admira APODACA, and the other to Government. The substance of the latter was on Thursday circulated in the following Bulletin:—

"Accounts have been received from Saragossa, dated the 24th, stating, that General CASTANOS, upon hearing that the French were moving a corps upon Soria from Burgos, and passing the Ebro at Logrono, had assembled an army of 40,000 foot and 4000 horse, and had taken up a position in an oblique line from Tudela to Borja. This position was unfavourable, as Tudela, the right and the advanced part of the position, was commanded by heights, and was indefensible. The French took advantage of this error, and having collected an army of 45,300 men, commenced their attack on the Spanish right, on the 23d, and defeated two divisions of Valencians and Murcians, who retreated with considerable loss towards Saragossa. Subsequent accounts from Saragossa, on the 25th, state,

that the Arragonese and Andalusian divisions did not suffer much, and had been able to retire in order, which is confirmed by the French accounts. The precise route taken by Gen. CASTANOS's army is not given. Saragossa was to be defended by 15,000 men. Gen. HOPE's division arrived at Villa Castin on the 28th ult. and would be at Arevola the 29th, on his route to Salamanca, in the neighbourhood of which place it was expected he would form a junction with Sir J. MOORE."

The dispatches are also understood to contain the particulars of the defeat of CASTANOS, and some interesting information respecting the manner of his retreat and future operations. It is said to be his intention not to risque the event of another general engagement, but to separate his army into corps of 10, 15, and 20,000 men, with which he purposes to occupy strong positions, and harass the enemy by a continuance of desultory attacks.

On Friday, fresh Intelligence reached Government from Spain, when the following Bulletin was issued :—

" A ship of war has arrived with dispatches from Coruuna, which she left on the 9th instant. Accounts are brought by it that the greatest enthusiasm had burst forth at Madrid, and that the people were determined to make every effort to defend the Capital. General HOPE had joined Sir JOHN MOORE at Salamanca, and Sir DAVID BAIRD was at Villa Franca on the 7th, and had suspended his retreat. BONAPARTE was at Aranda de Douro: his advanced corps had made itself master of Soma Sierra, and a French corps had reached Segovia."

By accounts from Vienna it appears, that the new Vizier, MUSTAPHA BAIRACTAR, is proceeding with uncommon vigour in the organization of the Turkish army, the re-establishment of the finances, the removal of abuses, and what is more important, the extinction of those *religious prejudices*, which made the numerous population of European Turkey a divided, and consequently a weak, people. The new military organization admits of no religious distinctions: all sects, Greeks, Armenians, &c. are allowed to enter into the new levies.—What do you think of this Turk, Mr. PERCIVAL?

The *Moniteur* of the 13th says, that Mr. ADAIR has wholly failed in his mission to Constantinople, and that MUSTAPHA BAIRACTAR, the present ruler of Turkey, has declared, that he considers every power as lost who makes a common cause with England.—Executions daily take place in Constantinople, and the new Government have vigorously crushed several conspiracies of the Janissaries, whose annihilation is evidently resolved upon.

BARTOLOZZI, the celebrated Engraver, and who is now in the 80th year of his age, had resided for some years in Portugal, and enjoyed a pension from the Prince Regent. After the French took possession of Lisbon, JUNOT continued the pension and took him to France. The annuity has been confirmed by BONAPARTE, and the venerable Artist now resides in Paris.

In a recent trial in Dublin, a question arose respecting *free admissions* to the Theatre there, of which the Judge seemed to have a very just opinion: he said, *without them*, bad players and wretched plays would not be applauded.

LORD MANNERS AND THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.—A motion was made in the Court of Chancery in Dublin, for an attachment against an Attorney, for publishing in the Newspapers the proceedings in that Court in reversing the Decree of another, as it cast reflections upon some of the parties, and introduced matter which was hurtful to their feelings. His Lordship said, he was proud to find the proceedings of the Court published, and he wished to see a great deal more of them, as they answered most salutary purposes. It shewed the people how to guide themselves, when similar cases would occur; and if Judges acted wrong, the proceedings ought to be published. He, for his part, wished every Decree he had, or would make, was in every Newspaper in the kingdom; and that if the Press was to be gagged, God knows where it would end.

Another barbarous murder was committed on Tuesday night on the body of J. Habbinshaw, at Stokechurch, Wilts. The deceased was a farmer, at whose house an attempt had been made to rob about three weeks since, but the thieves were dispersed, and one of them was so dangerously wounded by the farmer that it was with difficulty his companions got him away. At eleven o'clock on Tuesday night the house was again assailed by three ruffians, and after locking up the servant in the closet, they proceeded to a bedroom where Mr. and Mrs. Habbinshaw slept.—With dreadful imprecations the ruffians demanded the drawers in the room to be opened, which having been done by Mr. Habbinshaw, and the thieves having got possession of money and notes to the amount of 150l. one of them barbarously murdered him with a bludgeon in the presence of his wife, whom they bound to the bed, and then decamped. It was five o'clock on Wednesday morning before the situation of Mrs. Habbinshaw and the servant was discovered; and pursuit was immediately made after the ruffians, one of whom was taken into custody on Friday.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 36.

Eccentricities of this dramatic age.—The new third act of Venoni.—It's superiority to the former one.

DRURY-LANE.

ANY other age than the present might feel something more than surprise, were it to see an author withdraw his play for the purpose of re-writing a whole act. A critical and a poetical spirit used to be one and the same thing, and dramas were either revised as they were written till they satisfied the true critic, or they were struck off in the heat of inspiration, and wanted no revision, because they came glowing from the true poet. An author in those days no more thought of recalling his work from the public to give it a new feature, than a father thought of recalling his child into nonentity in order to give it a new face or a new intellect; but the thing is so reasonable now-a-days—it is so natural that plays should be bad and want mending, that the people are pleased at any chance of improvement, and an author is praised for acknowledging that his piece is not altogether beautiful. What the *brilliant and overflowing audience* may think who received the ori-

ginal third act of *Venoni* with such *unbounded applause*, I leave to the consciences of the Managers.—Swift said that he always knew whether an author was right or wrong by a very infallible method; if the author agreed with his opinions, he said, "Ah, that's very true: a very good idea!"—if not, he observed, "Oh, there he's manifestly wrong!" There may be a good deal of self-love in this sort of criticism, but there is also a good deal of honesty, which might be well imitated by some of the modern critics; and upon Swift's principle I cannot but speak well of the author of *Venoni* for having entirely omitted the old dungeon scene of the two lovers, who, when they might have met each other in full gaiety by merely turning the corner, seemed determined to act *Pyramus* and *Thisbe*, like the players in Shakspeare, and to have no enjoyment but through a wall. And here I might indulge myself in much newspaper complacency, and say how much gratified we are to see that the author has followed *our* hints, &c. &c. but of all cants newspaper cant is the dullest, though I say it (as old wives remark) who should not.

The new third act is opened by *Ludovico*, originally a mute character, who is discovered in a dungeon, bewailing the imprisonment which he has suffered for twenty years, from the hatred of the Prior; he has just, at this instant, discovered a long-sought passage leading from the dungeon, but is unable, from age and weakness, to avail himself of the opportunity; and as he retires to a corner, the door is thrown open by the Prior, and *Venoni* is thrown in upon the ground in a state of exhaustion. *Ludivoco*, on the departure of the malignant Monk, accosts the new victim, who, on his recovery, was about to commit suicide, and informs him of the prospect of escape. *Venoni* revives with a desperate joy, and seizing a loose bar, is instantly heard among the vaults breaking down the obstructions, and, in a moment, rushes triumphantly through the back scenes.—A dungeon in the adjoining nunnery is presently after exhibited, in which *Venoni's* mistress is confined by the confederate Abbess. While she is lamenting her destiny, a strain of choral music is heard, and as the back scenes recede, a splendid banquet, brilliant with lights and beautified with ladies, bursts upon the sight of the fair sufferer, who is again invited, but to no purpose, to enter the holy sisterhood. She is about to be immured once more, when *Venoni*, who has gradually made way from the monastery to the convent, rushes in and clasps her in his arms. In an instant the Prior follows him, and is tearing them asunder, when a fourth surprize succeeds, and Father *Michael*, the Viceroy, and the other friends of the lovers, rush in and conclude the piece.

Thus in the new act there is at once more variety, condensation, and probability; and while we are more acquainted with the virtue of *Josepha*, the guilty are dismissed to their proper punishment. A very pleasing effect also is produced by the contrast which *Josepha's* temptations to become a devotee present with those of *Venoni*. *Venoni* is assailed with argument, *Josepha* with music and spectacle; *Venoni* with an appeal to his understanding, *Josepha* with an appeal to the softer feelings; *Venoni*, in short, is tempted like a man, *Josepha* like a woman, and the picture becomes still more natural when it is remembered that nuns have been perpetually seduced from the world by the same artifices, and that in their unnatural solitude every little enjoyment of sense grows great in the absence of greater objects. The most ardent of devotees, in order to detach women from the world, have been compelled to use the world itself.

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Mr. WAITHMAN and the VICAR of EDMONTON.

"Go, cast your orders at your Bishop's feet,
"Send your dishonoured gown to Monmouth-street."

The Public already know something of the Rev. Dawson Warren, Vicar of Edmonton, from the proceedings in Guildhall, respecting the abuses in Christ's Hospital; into which Institution the said Rev. Vicar,—with an income of 1200*l. per ann.* with large expectations, and whose near relations hold lucrative situations under Government,—obtained admission for his son, through the presentation of Mr. Mellish, the Member for Middlesex. This proceeding very naturally roused the indignation of Mr. Waithman, whose motion for an inquiry into the abuses of the school was carried unanimously.

The Rev. Vicar, thinking that it was necessary to say something in excuse for his conduct, has published a Letter to Wm. Mellish, Esq. M. P. which letter has produced another from Mr. Waithman, addressed to the Governors of Christ's Hospital, both of which it would be well for every honest man to peruse.

The Vicar of Edmonton stoutly maintains, that any man, even if he has his income, with eight children to maintain, may *truly* and *conscienciously* say, that he has not in his own purse that adequate means of expenditure. And in another part he says: "My second son is not yet old enough: when he is, I shall, unless some good reasons shall occur to render inexpedient, exert my utmost endeavours to obtain for him the same excellent education!!!"—Well done, thou Reverend, modest, and discreet Pastor: this specimen of clerical *impudence* might have been expected from that saved sinner, Wm. Huntingdon, of Providence Chapel; but from the Rev. Dawson Warren, Vicar of Edmonton, whose three brothers hold valuable situations under Government,—one should really have expected something more discreet and decent!!!

The Rev. Vicar thus glorying in his shame, and thus exposing himself to the pity of his friends, the contempt of his enemies and the indignation of the public,—it is not to be supposed that he is much spared by Mr. Waithman in his animated reply. No; he lays about him with all his might; and every blow he gives,—if the said Rev. Vicar can feel at all, which is much to be doubted,—must make him tremble to his very toes.

How the Governors of Christ's Hospital mean to act on this occasion, is not yet exactly known, but something must be done to satisfy the public mind. The acting Committee in particular are deeply implicated in the matter; they knew well the condition and income of Mr. Warren; they knew that he possessed 1200*l.* a-year; they knew that he had signed a peti-

tion, "praying their worships, in their usual pity and compassion to *distressed men*, *poor widows*, and *fatherless children*, to admit his child into their said charity;"—they knew that he had also signed a certificate, to which he had procured the signature of the present Churchwardens of Edmonton, to their eternal disgrace, which certificate declares, that "he knows of no *probable means* of educating the said child, unless the Governors of Christ's Hospital should admit him;"—the Committee of Governors knew all this, for objections were made by some, and yet they thought proper to admit the boy, though hundreds of really poor children, the sons of modest, virtuous, and afflicted parents are daily applied for in vain: a fact known to all, except the Rev. Vicar, who has the folly to assert, that "the funds of this noble Establishment have been so increased, that it was impossible to consume its revenues on the objects for which it was, strictly speaking, intended."

So much for the veracity, modesty, and wisdom, of the Revered Vicar; if his Sermons are as weak as his Defence, Heaven help his poor flock—with such a Pastor, no wonder the sheep stray; no wonder that Methodism thrives in Edmonton. The man who thus acts cannot be listened to with patience; the very ploughmen would shun his deeds and despise his doctrines.

Mr. WAITHMAN has done his duty; and though Mr. WARREN may *assert* that he has "a hatred to the religious and political institutions of the country," —though *such men* may daily libel him, yet he must know full well that this wretched and hypocritical cant will *now* impose on no one gifted with common intellects. No, no, Mr. WARREN; first prove that Mr. WAITHMAN has acted half as meanly, half as improperly as you have done, and then indeed we may begin to think him an enemy to the institutions of his country. Till then, whatever you may teach, your actions excite nothing but disgust and loathing.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

BOARD OF INQUIRY.

NINTH DAY.—DEC. 13.

Sir H. Dalrymple, Sir H. Burrard, and Sir A. Wellesley, attended with their Aid-de-Camps.

Sir H. BURRARD read a narrative of his proceedings, from the time of his appointment to the command of the army, till Sir H. Dalrymple's assuming the chief command—of which the following is the substance:—On the 15th of July, Sir H. Burrard received a notification from Lieut.-Col. Gordon, desiring him to wait on Lord Castlereagh, which he did, when he understood he had been appointed second in command to the army which was to serve in Spain or Portugal, as circumstances might require. On the 31st of July, he sailed from Portsmouth, arrived at Oporto on the 17th of Aug. from whence he proceeded to Mondego Bay, where Sir A. Wellesley had already landed. It was Sir H. Burrard's intention to have landed there, and to have sent Sir John Moore, with his division, to the Tagus, in order to take the enemy in the rear; but Sir A. Wellesley had swept the country of every species of conveyance. and the Bishop of Oporto had not forwarded the 150 mules he promised. On the 20th, when Sir Harry was about to disembark, Sir A. Wellesley came on board, with the intelligence of the action of the 17th, and said it was his intention to advance the next morning. Sir Harry was of opinion that such advance would not be proper, as the army laboured under great difficulties, from the *want of cavalry and artillery horses*. He came to the serious determination to *halt*, from the consideration that the French outnumbered the British in cavalry; and that the nearer the enemy approached Lisbon, the nearer were they to their resources. In such a state of things, had the British received a check, the calamity might have proved fatal. While the British were employed in reducing the forts of the Tagus, the enemy might have engaged them under great advantage; and if Sir C. Cotton *had been* compelled to put to sea, the impression on these forts would have have been very trifling, as the army had *no heavy artillery*, The surf too, *might have* cut off the supply of provisions. Sir H. Burrard said, that his brother Officers concurred with him in the propriety of not advancing: On the 21st, he landed at the moment the French had commenced the attack at Vimiera, and joined Sir Arthur on the heights, with whom he had an explanation, and was so much satisfied with the disposition made, that he directed Sir Arthur to go on and complete the business he had so successfully commenced; but he notwithstanding held himself responsible for the issue. Soon after the French gave way every where. Sir Arthur wished to follow them, but as no good was to be expected from the Portuguese cavalry, as a body of the enemy on the left had not been engaged, as they had a very large force in cavalry, and as the British artillery horses were unable to move with celerity, Sir H. Burrard deemed it most advisable to wait for reinforcements before they advanced against the enemy, in which opinion he was supported by Generals Murray and Clinton. Sir H. Burrard thought the enemy's plan of attack ill advised and ill conducted, for had the British been more advanced, they would have been more exposed. Gen. Auckland's brigade had been up all night, and the whole of the army had been under arms from day-break. The enemy might have profitted by these circumstances. On the 22d Sir Arthur informed Sir Harry that Sir Hew Dalrymple had arrived, Sir Harry went to the outposts, and found General Kellermann with a flag of truce. Of the subsequent events, he presumed the Court were in possession.

Q. by Lord MOIRA.—You state that the British troops were much fatigued, having been long under arms. Is it not to be understood that the French troops must havebeen equally fatigued? A. I thought the army required refreshment. The French, I should suppose, must have been under arms much earlier than the British.

Q. by Sir A. WELLESLEY.—If the troops had been ordered to march on the 21st, would they not have had in their haversacks provisions for that day?—A. Certainly they would.

Q. Does Sir H. Burrard recollect that I proposed, a second time, on the field of battle, to pursue the enemy? A. I do remember it.

Q. by the Court to Sir A. WELLESLEY.—Was there, in your opinion, a probability of intercepting any part of the enemy's forces, if our troops had advanced?—A. I certainly think, that if the left wing had followed up its advantages as I proposed not only many would have been taken belonging to the left wing of the French army, but likewise belonging to the right, and that the whole of it was in such confusion, that giving them full credit for great facility and discipline in forming, after having been broken, it would have been very difficult, if not impossible, for them to have formed again.

Q. When did you propose to Sir H. Burrard to advance on the 21st?—A. When the enemy were beaten on the left, I went to Sir H. Burrard, and proposed to him to pursue the enemy; I did it in the way of a continuance or a renewal of a discussion which I had had with him in the Brazen on the preceding evening, and I told him that this was his time to advance, and that he ought to move the right wing to Torres Vedras, and to pursue the beaten

enemy on the left—that we had twelve days provisions, plenty of ammunition, &c. But Sir H. Burrard was of opinion that our advantages ought not to be followed up, much for the same reasons as he had stated the night before, and he desired that I would halt the troops on the ground then occupied. By this time the 71st and 82d were in advance, the 40th and 36th immediately in their rear, on the side of the valley, and the other troops formed in succession for their support. Very shortly afterwards the last attack was made by a body of the enemy's infantry on the 71st and 82d, which was repulsed, as I stated in my report to Sir H. Burrard, and it was after that, as well as I recollect, that Gen. Ferguson sent his Aid-de-Camp, Capt. Mellish, to inform me of the great advantage which might be derived frm the continuation of our advance, and I sent Capt. Mellish to Sir H. Burrard to endeavour again to prevail with him to allow us to continue our advance.

Sir A. WELLESLEY went on to state, that he considered the two propositions made by him to Sir H. Burrard, on the evening of the 20th and on the 21st, on the field of battle, to continue in pursuit of the advantages already gained by the British, as having in contemplation the same plan of operations. He certainly, in making the second proposition, did not mean to recommend the pursuit of the French as of a fugitive army, though they undoubtedly were in a state of great confusion.

Q. If our army had followed the plan proposed in pursuing the enemy, must not the French have gained ground on them in retiring in very loose order; and if our infantry had been broken in the pursuit, would not the enemy have had a good opportunity of acting against them with their cavalry?—A. In order to answer that question, I must state to the Court, what I conceive would have been the operations of the two armies if the plan proposed had been adopted. If the enemy had marched to Torres Vedras, they would have been cut off from Lisbon by the nearest road to that place. If they had retired on Torres Vedras in a state of confusion, they would have been between two bodies of our troops. If they had chosen to go round to Lisbon by Villa Franca, it was true they might have done so; but I conceive an army in that situation, followed, even at a slow rate, by a victorious enemy, absolutely incapable of forming, or appearing again in the shape of an army. There is no doubt but that our army must have kept in order, but I do not mean that they must at all times have been formed in line.

Q. How many cannon did the enemy carry with them in their retreat?—A. According to the order of the enemy's battle, they had but 21 pieces of artillery in the action, of which we took 13. If their order of battle was correct, which I believe it is, they had eight pieces left.

Q. Do you know if the reserve of the infantry of the enemy were engaged?—A. I do.

Q. Might there not have been a second line of infantry, as well as a reserve, in an attack of that sort?—A. Such was the situation of the country, that any number of troops might have been concealed who might have been destined to take part in the attack; and it would have been difficult, if not impossible, for us to see them; but I had seen nearly, if not the whole of the French troops on their march in columns in the morning; and comparing them with what I conceived to be the number of the troops fit for action, I did not conceive that they had any such troops beside the reserve.

General SPENCER *examined by Sir H.* BURRARD.—Q. Had you reason for knowing that the reserve of the enemy's infantry were engaged that day?—A. Not particularly of the reserve.

Q. Were the whole of the enemy's infantry engaged that day?—A. I cannot positively say.

Q. Were our artillery horses of sufficient strength to have been usefully employed against the enemy as far as Torres Vedras, or to seize and keep possession of a height distant from the main body of our army, the column separated being liable to be attacked by the cavalry or infantry of the enemy?—A. The horses performed the previous journey from Mondego Bay to Torres Vedras, and as to any particular press or push, any exertion would have been made to overcome the difficulties which might have presented themselves.

Q. Had you any reason to suppose that the enemy had retreated with some cannon, and what number?—A. They did, with seven or eight pieces, I understand.

Q. Do you think, if part of our army had marched forward, they might not have found the French force which had been repulsed by Generals Anstruther, &c. in good order, with their cannon and a body of cavalry; and the two parts of our army thus getting separated, our right might not have been severely handled?—A. I think the enemy would have endeavoured to take their position at Torres Vedras; but in regard to the separation of the columns, that must rest with the commander of the forces, according to the disposition he judged proper to make.

Q. Did you not see the French in their retreat take their ground, immediately rally, and get into good order? A. I saw one line distinctly formed about three miles off, as I have already said, in front of the centre of our position, where they remained upwards of an hour.

Q. by Sir A. WELLESLEY.—Did you, as second in command to me in that action, consider the defeat of the enemy to be so decided as to warrant the pursuit of the enemy?—A. I considered the enemy to be so completely beaten in the centre and left, that I should have supported Sir A. Wellesley in that measure.

Q. by Earl MOIRA.—If you had artillery horses for conveying cannon, was the nature of the roads such as would have enabled you to have brought up your artillery? A. I think it would have been with great difficulty they could have got on.

Gen. FERGUSON *examined by Sir A.* WELLESLEY.—Q. Do you recollect after having received orders to halt, that you sent a message to me by your Aide-de-Camp, Capt. Mellish, informing me, that if allowed to continue to advance you would gain important advantages?—A. I did send such a message.

Q. Describe to the Court what those advantages were? A. A column of the enemy completely broken, and consisting of from 1500 to 2000 men, had, in their confusion, got into a hollow, and were thereby placed in that situation that they might be cut off from the main body, by a movement of part of the corps under my command.

Q. Did you consider that part of the enemy with which the troops under your command had been engaged, on the 21st of August, to be so beaten as to render the continuance of the pursuit of importance?—A. As they had lost all their artillery, and were in the very utmost confusion, it certainly was my opinion that it was of importance that our army should continue to advance.

Q. Did you see any troops formed at the end of the action?—A. None properly formed. Some battalions of their infantry occasionally halted, in my opinion, to cover and carry off the booty.

Q. by Earl MOIRA.—Under what circumstances did your orders to halt find you?—A. One part of my battalion was on the village of Daringrusa, and the other in the rear to support it. The village was the last place where the enemy had made a stand, and from which they had been driven by the brigade under my command. The enemy were then retiring in the greatest confusion. The roads were so bad that, he hardly thought, had there been a sufficient number of artillery horses, they could have brought the artillery forward.

Lord BURGHERSH *examined by Sir A.* WELLESLEY.—Q. Was your Lordship present when I recommended to Sir H. Burrard, on the field of battle, to continue in the pursuit of the enemy?—A. I was.

Q. Were you present during the conversation I had with Sir H. Burrard on the same subject, on the 20th?—A. I was.

Q. Do you recollect my having on that occasion recommended to Sir H. Burrard the adoption of a plan for this purpose, which it had been my intention to put in practice the next morning; and that I pointed out to him the inconveniencies and disadvantages of bringing Sir John Moore from Mondego to join the army?—A. I recollect your recommending to him to allow the army to move forward on the morning of the 21st.

Q. Do you recollect that I urged Sir H. Burrard on the field on the 21st of August, to continue the pursuit of the advantages which our army had gained over the enemy?—A. I do recollect perfectly your pressing him to allow the pursuit to be continued.

Q. Do you recollect, that I pressed him to allow the right wing of our army to drive the left of the enemy back on Torres Vedras?—A. I do; saying at the same time, that in your opinion, by that movement, no part of the French army would reach Lisbon.—Adjourned.

TENTH DAY.—DEC. 13.

Sir H. BURRARD proceeded to examine Sir A. WELLESLEY to the following points:—

Q. Do you think it was possible for the British army to have commenced their march, when the French cavalry so far outnumbered the English, without the enemy's knowing immediately of the movement?—A. I think, under the circumstances of the country, it was possible for the army to march without the knowledge of the enemy, at nine miles distance, for at least two or three hours.

Q. If the French at Torres Vedras had known of the march of the British army, could not they have reached Mafra first, and have gained reinforcements from St. Julien and Cascayes?—A. I conceive not. I always estimated the French force in Lisbon, St. Julien, Cascayes, and the batteries, to be about 3000. They were troops in whom much confidence was not placed for operations in the field, being principally Hanoverians, Italians, and people from Dalmatia; and as the British Admiral was anchored off Cascayes with the fleet, and had with him the Royal Veteran Battalion for the purpose of alarming the enemy upon those points, and as it was settled with him, that as we advanced, he should disembark that battalion, and the marines of the fleet in the neighbourhood of the Rock of Lisbon, I conceive the French would not have ventured to weaken the garrisons and the forts on the Tagus and on the sea coast, to reinforce the army in the field.

Q. If you meant to attack Cascayes and Fort St. Julien, how did you propose to get heavy cannon?—A. I did propose to attack both Cascayes and St. Julien; and I also intended that those operations would have followed. It had been settled before I left England, that I should have the use of what heavy cannon I wanted from the fleet; and ammunition for 24-pounders; and mortars and ammunition, were sent from England in a store-ship, which joined the fleet before we were in a situation to undertake any siege.

Q. Are you sure you could have landed the cannon from the ships in any weather?—A. I cannot be certain, as that must have depended on the state of the weather, which is very precarious: but I thought it very probable the weather would have altered so as to enable me to land heavy cannon in some of those bays; and I am now certain it would, as the horses of the 18th light dragoons were landed in Cascayes bay.

Q. How many days did you think it would have taken to reduce Cascayes and St. Julien by siege?—A. I never made up my mind. Neither of them is strong.

Here followed a number of questions respecting distances. Sir Arthur admitted that the French, if they chose to cross the Tagus at Santarem, had plenty of horses of every description, to convey them thither, and craft enough at their command, in the Tagus, to have crossed at once.

A series of interrogatories followed, suggesting other lines of operation which Sir Arthur might have chosen with better advantage than those he had adopted;—the answers to which tended to shew that the line he had taken was the result of a deliberate choice, in preference to those now suggested.

Lord MOIRA then, in the name of the Court, put the following questions to Sir H. BURRARD:—

Q. Sir H. Dalrymple, and Sir A. Wellesley, have both of them stated to the Court, that it is their opinion, that if the Convention had not been signed, there was no possibility of preventing the French from crossing to the southern bank of the Tagus. Does your opinion on this subject coincide with theirs?—A. It certainly does.

Q. There is a conclusion which appears to follow from what has been stated, and I wish to know how it is to be resisted?—If Gen. Junot thought that the Convention was more advantageous to the French interests, than protracting the campaign under the circumstances of the French army, what are the motives that you suppose to have induced him to such a decision?—A. I conceive that Gen. Junot had his motives, although I am not prepared to say what they were. I do not believe that the Convention would have been signed, if the French Officers had not laid their hands upon their hearts, and declared in the most solemn manner that nothing should be carried away. This was a thing which could not appear in print, as it might cost the French Generals their heads when they came to Paris.

The same question was put to Sir A. WELLESLEY.—A. When I conceived it expedient to allow the French to evacuate Portugal by sea, my opinion was formed from a consideration of British interests and British objects, and also of the interests and objects of those allies acting in concert with Great Britain. I never supposed myself liable to be called upon to answer for the motives that operated in Gen. Junot's breast. When I considered the situation of the two armies, I thought that the French army, having the military possession of the country, had a fair military right to withdraw their army from Portugal by sea, and to carry with them their arms and baggage. I do not think myself at all accountable for the reasons which determined Gen. Junot. They might have been either unworthy motives of private advantage to himself, or they might have been motives having only in view the advantage of his country. I do not wish to insinuate any thing disrespectful of Gen. Junot, but he alone can answer what motives operated on his mind.

The same question was put to Sir H. DALRYMPLE.—A. I have already stated to the Court the reasons which induced me to think the Convention advantageous to us and our allies. It must also be recollected, that I had particular instructions to take care in expelling the French from Lisbon, that they should be prevented from retreating through Spain. Without pretending to say how far it might have been the intention of the enemy to attempt their retreat through Spain, I must again state, that according to my opinion and that of all my Officers, I had no other means of executing that part of my instructions, or preventing their retreat through Spain (if such had been their intention), except by signing that Convention. I cannot be answerable for the motives which induced Gen. Junot to agree to such a Convention. It was probable that that General saw some advantage to his country from it which he (Sir Hew) could not discern, exclusive of that great and obvious motive to spare an useless effusion of blood.

The question having been again put to him in a new form, he answered, that doubtless Junot must have had motives either for his own advantage or that of his country, but what these motives were he could not possibly say.

Q. Had you any doubt of Sir J. Moore's division landing in time, if you had resolved on farther operations?—A. I supposed they would soon land, and their landing was completed on the 31st; at that time, however, I thought circumstances had changed, and that they did not permit the negotiation to be any longer protracted. Four Lieut.-Generals appeared to coincide with me in that opinion. These were Sir H. Burrard, Sir J. Moore, Lieut.-Gen. Hope, and Lieut.-Gen. Mackenzie Frazer. Lieuts.-Gen. Sir A. Wellesley and Lord Paget were then absent on a more distant service.

Colonel TORRENS *examined by Sir A.* WELLESLEY.—Q Were you present on board the Brazen, on the evening of the 20th of August, at a conversation between me and Sir H. Burrard?—A. I was. Sir A. Wellesley gave an account of all his operations from the time of his landing at Mondego Bay, and stated that he had issued orders for the advance of the army on the ensuing morning. Sir H. Burrard replied, that he did not conceive it adviseable for the army to advance from that position until it should have been reinforced by the division under Sir J. Moore. Sir Arthur observed, that it appeared to him that it was of the utmost importance to push forward by way of Mafra with the view of turning the enemy's left flank, and endeavouring to break the French army. He wished to force them to a battle as near Lisbon as possible, in order that we might avail ourselves of the short distance from the Tagus, to follow up in such a manner the victory which he expected to gain as to prevent them crossing that river. He also added, that he wished the battle to be near Lisbon, as he had a most accurate survey of all the surrounding country. Sir A. Wellesley also objected to bringing down Sir J. Moore to Maceira, as he conceived Sir H. Burrard would, by that measure, preclude himself from all the advantage which might otherwise be expected from marching that body to Santarem, and cutting off the retreat of the French to the northward. Sir H. Burrard, however, thought it adviseable to bring down Sir John Moore's corps, in order to render certain those operations, which would otherwise appear to him to be doubtful.

Q. Do you remember my recommending to Sir H. Burrard to continue the pursuit of the enemy?—A. Yes, immediately after we had defeated the light column of the French army, which was retreating precipitately, Sir A. Wellesley rode up to Sir H. Burrard and said, Sir Harry, now is your time to advance upon the enemy, they are completely broken, and we may be in Lisbon in three days; a large body of our troops have not been in action; let us move them from the right, on the road to Torres Vedras, and I will follow the enemy with the left. Sir H. Burrard replied, that he thought a great deal had been done, very much to the credit of the troops, that he did not think it adviseable to do more, or quit the ground in pursuit of the enemy. Sir A. Wellesley observed at the time, that the troops were perfectly ready to advance, having provisions ready cooked in their haversacks, according to the order of the preceding day.

Sir A. WELLESLEY then read to the Court his reasons why the army ought to advance. He considered that the army was sufficiently strong to beat the enemy, and he always considered Lisbon as the grand object of the campaign on both sides. He wished Sir J. Moore's division to go to Santander, to cut off the retreat of the enemy to the north, and from plans of the enemy's engineers, which afterwards fell into the possession of the British army, it was evident they had meditated a retreat in that direction. He had calculated that after a battle the enemy would have been so much beaten, that Sir J. Moore's division would have been a full match for them, especially when other divisions of his army were following them up. On the 20th, when he proposed marching forward, he had an army of from 16 to 17,000 British troops, in high order and spirits, and well equipped, and he had no reason to doubt of the issue of a battle with the enemy. On the 21st, he did all that he could to prevail upon Sir H. Burrard to allow the army to follow the advantages it had gained. As to the Armistice which he had approved of, it by no means followed, that that which would not have been right on the morning of the 21st, might not have been right on the evening of the 22d. On the 21st the enemy were in the utmost confusion. On the 22d they were no longer in that state. The situation of the French army had been much improved in consequence of the British army not having followed up its advantages. There was no longer any chance of preventing them from crossing the Tagus if they had been so disposed.

Sir A. WELLESLEY *examined by Sir H.* BURRARD.—Q. Was not there the same facility of advancing to Mafra on the 23d that there was on the morning of the 21st, when Sir A. Wellesley had recommended that the army should advance?—A. There was certainly the same facility, but there was no longer the same object, as there no longer remained a chance of bringing the French to another action. They had tried their strength in the field, and failed, and if the army had advanced upon the 23d, the French would have fought no more battles, but would have continued to retreat.

Sir H. BURRARD then read another written statement. In the first place he did not suppose that the enemy had their whole force in the field; and he confessed he did not know that such a considerable body of them had been separated from their main army. He thought the British line was too much extended, and an advance was inexpedient. Other Officers of great experience had coincided in his opinion. He however knew that he was fully responsible for his determination, and assured the Court that if he was wrong, it was from an error in judgment.

Sir A. WELLESLEY said, that however widely he differed then and now from Sir H. Burrard about the propriety of advancing, he was convinced that Sir Harry was actuated by no unworthy motives.—[*Sir Harry Burrard was here much affected, even to tears.*]

Sir H. DALRYMPLE then put some questions to Sir H. BURRARD respecting the approbation which the other Lieutenants-General gave to the general principle of the Convention, that the French should be permitted to evacuate Portugal by sea, carrying with them their arms and baggage.

Sir H. BURRARD acknowledged that that principle had been generally agreed to.

Sir H. DALRYMPLE then read a short statement. He said he did not presume to say that his opinion, with respect to the Convention, was superior, or perhaps equal, to that which the Court might form. He was happy that his dispatch of the 27th of August was in evidence, as it was a record of the thanks which he had given, and which were justly due, not merely to the valour of the corps, but to the energy and talents of the General who commanded (Sir A. Wellesley) at the battle of Vimiera. He must say, however, for himself, that his landing and taking the command had no preponderating influence on the only question then under consideration in the army—the Armistice which was preparing, and which ended in the Convention. The general principle of the Armistice was agreed to by all the other Lieutenant-Generals, and he made it subservient to the purpose of landing in safety the whole of Sir J. Moore's army. The general principle of the Convention had the sanction of all the other Generals; and if his opinion was not overturned by the opinion of the Court, he could submit with patience to whatever he had suffered in his feelings from other opinions, which he could never persuade himself to consider well-founded, unless the Court were to adopt them by their sentence.

The PRESIDENT then stated that the whole of the evidence had been gone through, and every thing that was of public interest. What remained would be matters of arrangement, and of private consideration for the Board.

The public are, therefore, no more to be admitted.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Monday, Dec. 12.

WILLIAMSON v. WATH.

This was an action by the holder of two Bills of Exchange for 47l. against the acceptor, a young Paphian Devotee of Queen Anne-street, East. The defence was, that the defendant being an infant at the time of the acceptance, could not be liable to pay. It was then contended, that the bills were for necessaries, for which even infants were liable. The Judge said, that an acceptance could not make an infant liable on a bill of exchange; but if the plaintiff wished to have that point argued in full Court, he would go on with the cause. A linen-draper of the name of Wills was then called to prove the furnishing of the goods, but it was objected that he was not a competent witness, because he himself, in case this action did not succeed, would be liable as the drawer. But the plaintiff having released him, his evidence was received, and he stated that he had furnished linen and silk stockings to the defendant, to the amount of the bills, from December 18 5 to June 1806. Being asked whether part of the goods were not Indian, and contraband, he replied, that he could not undertake to say whether they were or not. He had no doubt at the time of the trade carried on by the young lady, but did not answer the question, whether or not he had visited her often.—Here Sir J. MANSFIELD interposed, and declared, that neither he nor the Jury could devise any measure as to what might be the necessaries suited to the condition of a Priestess of this kind, whose temple was in Queen Anne-street, East. The worship was, besides, not tolerated by the laws of this country, and consequently the law would not compel payment for the necessaries that might be required to carry it on.—The plaintiff was therefore nonsuited.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, WESTMINSTER.

Monday, Dec. 12.

BROUGHTON v. BEAVAN.

Mr. Serjeant VAUGHAN stated that the defendant was a Magistrate in Wales. He had been formerly an officer of militia, and had met Miss Anne Broughton, the plaintiff, a milliner, in Devonshire. They cohabited together, and a boy was the fruit of their intercourse. The plaintiff got a note of hand from the defendant for the payment of 10l. yearly, for seven years, towards the maintenance of the child; but he refusing to pay, she was compelled to bring this action; and the Learned Serjeant expressed his astonishment at hearing that his Learned Brother (Best) had been instructed to defend. Mr. Serjeant Best, however, immediately gave up the cause, and a verdict was given for the plaintiff.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

The Countess of Liverpool, mother to the Duchess of Dorset, and to Lady Aboyne, lies in a dangerous situation. Her Ladyship, in coming down stairs, on Friday se'nnight, at her house in Hertford-street, set fire to her veil with a candle. Before the flames could be extinguished, she was very severely burnt from her shoulder down to her wrist on one arm, as well as on her side and back. Her recovery is expected to be slow, and is by no means considered by the Faculty as certain. Her sister, Lady Warren, was burnt to death a few years since at Brighton.

A private of the Foot Guards, belonging to Portman-street Barracks, of the name of Killock, was found dead in his bed, on Friday morning, at the Hole in the Wall, Grosvenor-Mews, he having in the course of the night cut his throat from ear to ear. The deceased had been absent from duty, in consequence of which he received a reprimand from his serjeant; and impressed with an idea of punishment, was supposed to have caused suicide.

EXTREME CRUELTY.—A miscreant, named *Swiney*, a shoemaker in Monmouth-street, has been apprehended for stabbing a patrole belonging to Hatton-Garden, in the execution of his duty. It appears that the prisoner had often been in confinement for barbarous treatment to his wife; and on Thursday night, although the wife was in the last month of her pregnancy, he beat her most unmercifully, broke her jaw-bone, and drew a knife on her, and swore he would murder her. The shrieks of the poor woman brought some people to her assistance, whilst the brutal husband was standing over her with the deadly weapon, and would probably have put his threat into execution. The patrole, and two watchmen, interfered, and took the prisoner into custody; but in doing so he stabbed the patrole twice in the stomach; but providentially the bluntness of the weapon prevented a mortal incision.—The prisoner was fully committed for trial, under the cutting and maiming act.

BIRTHS.

On the 23d ult. Mrs. Moody, of Ferryhill, was delivered of four female children. The first lived nearly an hour; the second, three-quarters of an hour; the third, half an hour, and the fourth, nearly a quarter of an hour. The mother is in a fair way of recovery.

DEATHS.

On Sunday evening, at the house of Mr. Pearkes, in Charlotte-street, there was a party of about twelve persons, who where spending the evening; and after the supper cloth had been withdrawn, one of the gentlemen present, Mr. Clowes, who resides in Portland-road, fell down and expired, whilst taking a glass of wine. The deceased was a young gentleman in the 24th year of his age, of independent fortune, and was a suitor to the youngest of seven of Mr. P.'s daughters, who was present at the awful visitation.

Lately, in Cold Bath-square, Mrs. S. Lee.

On the 4th ult. the Hon. Miss Phipps, the daughter of Lord Mulgrave. She was seized with a brain fever the week before her dissolution, and never afterwards recovered her mental faculties. The circumstances attending her death were peculiarly distressing. Her amiable mother, being in the last stage of pregnancy, the domestics were enjoined not to give the least intimation of her decease. Her Ladyship was, however, safely delivered of a son on Thursday se'nnight, and after she had been thought sufficiently recovered, his Lordship undertook to make the melancholy communication of their daughter's death, which she received with becoming fortitude and resignation.

At Castle Dawson, Derry, in the 106th year of her age, Mrs. Mary Richardson. She was attended to her grave by her children, grand-children, great grand-children, and great great grand children.

On the 2d inst. at Blackbury, aged 80, R. Carradice, of Ribchester-bridge, who, 77 years since, lost his sight by the small-pox. In the year 1798, when in his 70th year, he walked upwards of 200 miles, to visit his son, and pushed a hand-cart before him all the way.

Lately, the Rev. Thomas Moss, many years Minister of Briorly Hill Chapel, Worcester, and author of "The Beggar's Petition," and other poetical pieces.

On Tuesday, at Hareheath, near Reading, Mrs. May, aged 81. Out of a considerable property she has bequeathed the sum of 15,000l. to charitable purposes, and the remainder to numerous relations.

A woman, nearly 30 years of age, lately dropped down dead, at Portsburgh, North Britain; and, on opening the body, it appeared that she had absolutely died from the want of food, though she has left property to the amount of near 2000l.

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